

AMENDMENT
OBJECTIONS

Some of the Reasons for Voting Against its Adoption

GIVE UNLIMITED POWER

The People of Florida Will Not Delegate Such Despotism Power on any Set or Board of Officials.

The advocates of the now famous drainage amendment pool-pool the objection that, if adopted, it will place too much power in the hands of five men. They allege that the tax assessors and commissioners of the various counties are clothed with even superior power in the matter of fixing land values, but they forget that the acts of these officials are subject to revision by the courts, whereas the drainage board, if put in the constitution, will be actually a branch of the State government with powers not subject to question by the legislature or any court.

Read the proposed amendment carefully, and see if the objections made are not founded on a just basis. Consider these objections:

First—Neither the legislature nor the courts will have any power to review, annul or enjoin any act of the drainage board.

Second—The board is not required to make any accounting of moneys received or expended, though they are given despotism power to collect and expend vast sums of money. They do not have to report to the legislature or any other body or institution.

Third—They will exist as taxing power for an indefinite term of years. No limit is fixed to their term of office as a board, and they may continue in existence long after their work has been accomplished.

Fourth—They will have power to locate a drainage district and levy tax anywhere they please in the state, though we are told that only the Okeechobee district will be created or affected under the proposed amendment. Wherever there is a forty acre swamp or marsh in the state, the board may establish a drainage district and levy the tax. Not only this, but—

Fifth—Under the proposed amendment the taxes collected from the Okeechobee district may be wholly expended in draining the marshes of Fernandina or the lagoons and bayous of Pensacola. A drainage district may be established at Tallahassee, to include Lake Lanoka, and the taxes therefrom applied to the Everglades.

The present officials who, if the amendment is adopted, will constitute the drainage board, are honorable men and will not do such outrageous acts as those indicated, but, when bank presidents steal millions and trusted insurance officials spend thousands of other people's money to corrupt legislators and buy elections, it is nothing but simple prudence that the people of Florida demand reasonable protection against the contingencies of the future, and the proposed amendment does not affect the least particle of such protection.

They tell us that the people are very unlikely to elect dishonest men as state officers. True, but we elected an honest man once as state treasurer—Clarence B. Collins,—and he lost \$150,000 of the people's money. He was not to blame, but he lost the money.

Along about the same period of years Treasurer Poik, Tennessee; Treasurer Hummingway, of Mississippi, and the state treasurer of Alabama, made way with many thousands of the people's money. And these officials were all bonded. Our drainage commissioners will not be bonded.

Sixth—Under the pretext that the interests of drainage and irrigation require it, the board may employ a host of men, political adherents, as inspectors and superintendents of drainage operation, of dykes, levees, drains and canals, and thus build up a formidable political machine.

Now, we do not charge that the board will do all or any of these things, but we do assert that the amendment will give them power; and if they should abuse this power to oppress or wrong the people—nay, if they should openly

appropriate to their own private uses all the drainage funds collected,—what is there to prevent or punish them? If they steal the money, who is to prosecute them? The attorney general? He is one of them. The governor? He is their chief. The legislature? They will be above the legislature by virtue of being in the constitution as a body on an equal footing with the legislature.

In a word, they can do as they please, and there is no one, no authority or power having jurisdiction over them any more than the legislature or the supreme court has the power to set aside, over-ride, or repeal any clause or section of the state constitution.

Governor Broward says that, if any one of these men should do wrong, put him in jail. Easy enough said; but all of them for years have been doing wrong and violating the laws as trustees of the internal improvement fund and nobody has ever suggested that any one of them be put in jail for it. They admit that the law requires them to pay over to the state school fund 25 per cent of the money coming into their hands, and they admit that they have not done it. They have applied this school money to other purposes. Now, what do you call that? Malfeasance? Malfasance. Not embezzlement for they are all honest men and you can stake your life on the assertion that not one of them would apply to his own use money that did not belong to him.

But they have diverted this school money and not paid it over as law requires; and yet these same officials are under the jurisdiction of the legislature and of the supreme court; they are not constitutional officers, as this amendment now proposes to make them. Now if, as statutory officers, they do what they please with the school money, what may we expect them to do when they become constitutional officers and out of the reach of the legislature?

Wesay them and speak in the present tense with reference to the drainage board, but we want it understood that we have confidence in this present board notwithstanding the fact that, in their other capacity as trustees of the internal improvement fund, they have misappropriated the share which belongs to the school fund.

Our contention is that, even in the hands of the most righteous of men, this proposed drainage amendment is a dangerous thing, and the people had better vote against it. But a majority of them are going to vote for it. Why? You ask, simply because the corporations are fighting it. The people will not even take the trouble to read and study it.

Then why should "The Herald" oppose it? Because it owes a duty to the people who support it, to warn them of the danger; and having discharged this duty, it washes its hands of the whole (continued on page 4)

JOLLY SURPRISE
PARTY AT EDEN

A few friends of Mr. and Mrs. F. B. Richards, of Eden, gave them a jolly surprise last Saturday evening, October 13, in honor of their tenth wedding anniversary. While the family was quietly enjoying the evening, a crowd of their neighbors suddenly appeared on the scene laden with tinware of all descriptions.

After the rattle of tin died away, the guests enjoyed themselves in various games until someone remarked that the appetites of the surprisers were sharpened by the cool night air. After a repast of sandwiches and coffee the past guests departed for their homes, wishing the happy couple many more happy years of married life.

The presents were all useful, and one worthy of special note was from J. A. Haistens—a brand new joint of stove pipe.

Those present were: Mr. and Mrs. J. H. LeTourneau, Mrs. Traynor, Mrs. H. W. Richards, Mrs. M. L. Richards, Mrs. Miller, Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Williams, Mr. and Mrs. S. F. Webb, Mrs. Stanford, Mr. and Mrs. Daniels, Mr. and Mrs. Coles, Mr. and Mrs. Phillips, and Mrs. Reba LeTourneau, Beatrice Richards, Ella Stanford and sister, Moriat Gary, Jessie, Una and Barbara Moriat Gary, Margaret Webb, Lucy Richards, Messrs. Will Lennard, J. A. Haistens, Forie Hamor, Harry Thompson, Francis Richards, Howard Richards and Charlie Phillips.

REGISTRATION
LIST REVISED

Sixteen Names Stricken by The County Commissioners.

INSPECTORS APPOINTED

Official Ballot Made up for the General Election November Sixth.—Printing Ordered from The Tribune.

Board of county commissioners met in regular session Oct. 17, 1906. Present, W. R. Hardee, chairman; P. Kroegel, J. F. Bell, with J. E. Fultz, clerk.

Petition of F. L. Hemmings, C. T. McCarty, et al, to have the name of Frank M. Tyler printed on the official ballot as a candidate for the office of justice of the peace for District No. 2 of the county of St. Lucie and the State of Florida, received, and on motion the name of Frank M. Tyler is ordered printed on the ticket as above set forth.

On motion the registration books were taken up and the following names stricken:

1st District	
A. J. Ward	“ moved from county
2d District	
W. A. Hendry	“ “ “
D. F. Knight	“ “ “
J. H. Lloyd	“ “ “
J. R. Pomeroy	“ “ “
J. S. Smart	“ “ district
J. M. Sullivan	“ “ county
N. W. Tubbs	“ “ “
4th District	
Harley Crews	“ “ “
J. W. Colwell	“ “ district
T. R. Christian	“ “ county
N. H. Major	“ “ “
Dan Ross	“ “ “
L. J. Sawyer	“ dead
10th District	
L. P. Larsen	“ “ “
L. Peterson	“ “ “

On motion inspectors and clerks for general election, Nov. 6th, 1906, were appointed. See page 8.

On motion THE ST. LUCIE COUNTY TRIBUNE is given the printing of ballots, with instructions to furnish all necessary blanks for use in holding the general election, Nov. 6, 1906; also to publish list of inspectors and clerks for general election.

Pursuant to law the State and County official ballot was made up from certificates of nomination on file in clerk's office for the general election to be held on Nov. 6, 1906.

On motion board adjourned to meet in special session, Oct. 27, 1906.

Enjoyable Surprise Party

The friends and neighbors of Mrs. H. Ehrlich tendered that lady a most enjoyable surprise party at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. T. Backus, last Saturday evening. The contemplated removal of Dr. and Mrs. Ehrlich, to Chicago since disposing of their home, is regretted by all, and the desire to make their last days among them pleasant was the incentive that gathered the neighbors together on this occasion. Those present were: Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Goodwin, Mrs. C. K. Durkee, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Lord and Harold, Mrs. and Mrs. C. S. Bixby, Mrs. Sarah Andrews and children, Mr. and Mrs. A. N. Hoofnagle, Grandma Hoofnagle, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. T. Backus and children, Dr. and Mrs. H. Ehrlich, L. P. Barranger, Misses Effie Bixby and Helen Lassitter and Eugene Hoofnagle. A most delightful evening was spent and an elegant supper was enjoyed.

CARNIVAL CROWDS TO
SEE BOUQUET OF FIRE

A bouquet of fire flowers several hundred feet in circumference will be a spectacle to spellbind Carnival visitors in November. Sunflowers and petunias, and jonny-jump-ups and touch-me-nots, and roses, and every kind of flower in the category will be bunched into a gorgeous bouquet as big as a house through the art of four expert pyrotechnologists who are coming from New York especially to handle the nightly fireworks programme at the Carnival.

Those who have never seen a Florida palm tree floating in fire among the clouds, will get some new experience,

for this is another feature of the fireworks show.

The mayor and the governor and other prominent men known to Floridians, will smile upon the crowds from wreaths of sputtering rockets, and there will be elephants and roosters, and flags and hundreds of shapes, and boomerangs, those funny things that sail around like a comet and come back.

The fireworks show alone is costing the Jacksonville Carnival Association an immense amount of money, and so important is the work of operating it regarded that the Nordlinger & Charlton Company, of New York found it necessary to send a corps of experts to handle the explosives. There will be a number of German imported bombs, the sound of which will rumble and re-echo, it is facetiously said, for a week after they are exploded.

It is understood the fireworks show will be the most gorgeous ever seen in any part of the South, possibly with the exception of that at the opening of the Georgia State Fair in Atlanta.

Negro Boy in Trouble.

Clarence Edmonson, a young colored man was brought to Fort Pierce Tuesday, from Eden, and was turned over to Deputy Sheriff F. M. Tyler, charged with raising an order for money.

He was taken to Jensen Tuesday evening where he was given a preliminary hearing before Justice of the Peace J. H. Baker, and was bound over to the next term of the circuit court in the sum of \$500.

It appears that Edmonson, who is only a boy, was working for J. S. Cureton, and when his labors were completed he was given an order on J. A. Haistens for \$1.20, which was due him. He raised the order to \$5.20, spending most of the amount at the store. Mr. Cureton became aware of the order being raised Tuesday morning and went to Jensen in search of the boy, who he found at the depot awaiting the arrival of the train. On seeing the approach of Mr. Cureton, Edmonson ran, and a crowd soon joined in the chase and caught him, and he was brought to Fort Pierce.

This is not Edmonson's first appearance before the court, as several months ago he was sentenced to the convict camp for ninety days, but escaped when about half his term had expired. He comes from a well-to-do negro family of Titusville.

Contractor A. J. Brewer has been more than busy lately. Besides the contracts for the erection of the big stone building for the Fee & Stewart Co., and the office building for Hemmings & Andrews, he has been figuring on several other contracts, and went to Stuart Wednesday evening to close one or more contracts at that point.

SONS OF TEMPERANCE
TO BE ORGANIZED

The work of securing applicants to unite with the proposed division of the S. T. is progressing. Rev. Tomkies, pastor of the M. E. church, and P. E. Eldred have taken hold of the work and are assisting Mr. Lamont in the work. The list shows some of the most prominent men and women in Fort Pierce.

The workings of the order consist of the initiation of new members and regular programs of literature and music, social entertainment of members and open meetings to which members may bring their friends to enjoy a pleasant evening.

Rev. Tomkies has kindly consented to hold a meeting in the M. E. church on Thursday evening, Oct. 25, for the purpose of rounding up the list of applicants and fully explaining the workings and magnitude of the order. It is desired that there may be a large attendance at the church, not only of those who desire to enter the lodge but also of those who are in favor of the temperance movement in any form.

After the organization has been perfected a superintendent of juvenile work will be selected and the work of teaching the evil effects of alcohol on the system will be instituted.

This is a work which is worthy of recognition by the Christian public and should be well patronized.

Let all interested in the movement attend the meeting.

GOOD ROADS
FOR ST. LUCIE

Enthusiastic and Profitable Meeting Wednesday Afternoon.

TO BOND FOR \$150,000

Trunk Road the Length of the County With Connecting Branches Where They Will Best Serve the People.

As announced last week the good roads association met in the Improvement Club hall Wednesday afternoon, with a good attendance. While no large crowd was present, the various portions of the county were well represented by influential citizens, who are interested in the good roads movement and whose opinions are worthy of notice and consideration.

D. E. Austin, presided and after stating the object of the meeting, suggested the election of a secretary during the absence of Secretary Jennings. Col. F. G. McMullen, of Eden, was unanimously elected to the position.

The minutes of the meeting of May 18, were read and adopted, after amending the resolution regarding the selection of bond trustees. It now reads that the chairman shall call a mass meeting in each school district to nominate two candidates for bond trustees in each district, of whom one from each district shall be elected by vote of the people.

Hon. C. T. McCarty, chairman of the committee appointed at the May meeting reported that the committee had looked into the matter pretty thoroughly and suggested the six subjects for discussion, which were published in last week's TRIBUNE.

In the matter of bonding and probable amount, Mr. McCarty was asked to give the figures he had procured in regard to interest, taxation, etc. He showed that taxes would not be increased as is generally believed, but on the other hand would easily be lessened. Taking \$100,000 bonds, for 25 years as a bases, and our million and a half assessed valuation, three and a fraction mills would pay the interest, and a fraction less than three mills would create a sinking fund of \$5,000 each year to pay the bonds. Thus six mills road tax will pay the interest every year and take up the bonds in 25 years. In this way we get a system of hard roads at once, and the residents get the benefit of the high ways and at a cheaper rate of tax than is now being paid with no noticeable results. The present special road tax is seven mills, and the amount it brings in each year does not justify the commissioners in buying the necessary road machinery that would be used could a large amount be expended for that purpose. By bonding, the seven mill special tax would be eliminated and in its stead the bonding tax levied for a smaller amount.

A resolution was introduced by W. R. Hardee, of Jensen, and adopted, favoring the bonding of the county for \$150,000, the bonds to run for 25 years.

The discussion of the location of roads was discussed at considerable length.

The sense of the meeting was to build a trunk road the length of the county along the river front with side roads extending to all places where they would best serve the interests of the various communities. The biggest proposition on the side roads was the reaching of the farming section in the west end of the county. John F. Parker of Fort Drum, was called on to state the condition of the roads in his section and what amount would be necessary to build a good road to the west end. He gave a most accurate and intelligent account of the needs of his section. Mr. Parker stated they did not want a road as a luxury but as a necessity, for that was the only means of transportation. He showed by the map that the present road from Fort Drum to Fort Pierce was unnecessarily long and suggested a route by which the big elbow could be cut off and save eight or ten miles. The proposed route, which was entered on the minutes in a resolution, was as follows: The present road from Fort Pierce to Ten Mile creek, then build a new road across the flats to Cowbone island, where it would inter-

(continued on page 4)